

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES  
MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS**

- 1.-19. (Canceled)
20. (Currently amended ) An operating method for a machine tool for machining a workpiece in sequentially executed machining steps, the method comprising the steps of:
- ~~processing a step sequence;~~
  - wirelessly reading out at least one part program from a workpiece data carrier assigned to the workpiece, wherein the at least one part program includes a program pointer during the processing of said step sequence;
  - reading out the program pointer assigned to the workpiece;
  - beginning execution of the at least one part program at a step indicated by the program pointer;
  - transmitting a new program pointer to the workpiece data carrier when execution of the step of the at least one part program ends and updating the program pointer with the new program pointer;
  - and
  - controlling the machine tool so that the machine tool machines the workpiece in accordance with said at least one part program.
21. (Cancelled)
22. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 20, wherein a plurality of identical workpieces to be machined identically are assigned to said workpiece data carrier and said part program is wirelessly read out from said workpiece data carrier only once for said plurality of identical workpieces.

23. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 20, further comprising the step of wirelessly reading out a description of the workpiece from said workpiece data carrier so that the machine tool machines the workpiece in accordance with said description of the workpiece.
24. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 23, wherein said description includes original geometric dimensions of the workpiece.
25. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 23, wherein said description includes geometric dimensions of the workpiece immediately prior to machining of the workpiece by the machine tool.
26. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 23 wherein said description includes geometric dimensions of the workpiece, said method further including the step of taking account of said geometric dimensions of the workpiece in a collision check.
27. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 23, wherein said description of the workpiece includes information about the workpiece material.
28. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 27 wherein the machine tool has drives, and further comprising the steps of measuring actual power input by a drive during machining of the workpiece; comparing the actual power measured with threshold power values; adjusting the further machining of the workpiece in accordance with said comparison; and adjusting at least one of said threshold values depending on said information about the material of the workpiece.

29. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 28, further comprising the step of detecting tool breakage if said actual power input exceeds a threshold value for said material.
30. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 28, further comprising the step of adjusting a machining rate at which the workpiece is machined if said actual power input exceeds a threshold value for said material.
31. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 20, wherein said description of the workpiece includes a workpiece identifier, said method further comprising the steps of wirelessly reading out a workpiece identifier from said workpiece data carrier; and determining whether said workpiece identifier is a correct workpiece identifier for said part program.
32. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 23, wherein said description of the workpiece includes a minimum requirements profile, said method further comprising the steps of comparing said minimum requirements profile with capabilities of the machine tool; and commencing machining the workpiece only if said capabilities of the machine tool match said minimum requirements profile.
33. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 20, further comprising the steps of wirelessly reading out component data from a component data carrier assigned to an additional component of the machine tool during processing of said step sequence; and taking said component data into account in processing said step sequence.

34. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 33, wherein said component data includes geometric dimensions of said additional component, said method further comprising the step of taking account of said dimensions of the additional component in a collision check.
35. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 33, wherein said component data includes status data, and further comprising the step of transmitting updated status data to said component data carrier after the workpiece has been machined.
36. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 35, wherein said status data includes at least one of the following: operating hours, wear, type of machining operations, number of machining operations.
37. (Previously presented) The operating method of claim 20, said method further comprising the step of transmitting updated component data to said component data carrier after the workpiece has been machined, said component data including at least one of the following: a machine tool identifier, a user identifier, setting of the additional component, overheating of the additional component.
38. (Currently amended) A machine tool for machining a workpiece, comprising:
  - a control device adapted to control the machine tool, said control device being adapted to process a step sequence; and
  - means for wirelessly reading out at least one part program from a workpiece data carrier assigned to the workpiece during the processing of said step sequence to supply said at least one part program to the control device so that the machine tool machines the workpiece in accordance with said part program.

wherein said at least one part program includes individual steps, the individual steps being adapted to be sequentially executed, said machine tool further comprising:

means for wirelessly reading out a program pointer assigned to the workpiece from said workpiece data carrier;

means for beginning execution of said part program at an individual step indicated by the program pointer; and

means for transmitting a new program pointer to the workpiece data carrier when execution of said part program ends, so that the new program pointer updates a program pointer stored in the workpiece data carrier.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously presented) The machine tool of claim 38, further comprising means for reading out said part program only once from said workpiece data carrier for a plurality of identical workpieces to be machined identically, said plurality of identical workpieces being assigned to said workpiece data carrier.

41. (Previously presented) The machine tool of claim 38, further comprising means for reading a description of the workpiece from said workpiece data carrier.

42. (Previously presented) The machine tool of claim 41, wherein said description includes geometric dimensions of the workpiece.

43. (Previously presented) The machine tool of claim 41 wherein said description includes information about the material of the workpiece.

44. (Previously presented) The machine tool of claim 38, further comprising means for reading a workpiece identifier from said workpiece data carrier; and means for determining whether said workpiece identifier is a correct workpiece identifier for said part program.
45. (Previously presented) The machine tool of claim 38, further comprising means for wirelessly reading out component data from a component data carrier assigned to an additional component of the machine tool; means for using said component data when processing said step sequence; and means for transmitting updated component data to said component data carrier after the workpiece has been machined.
- 46.-48. (Canceled).